

## **REGULAR SESSION**

February 9, 2022

The City Council of Essex met in regular session at the Essex Community Room at 6:30 PM. Mayor Kinney called the meeting to order and roll call was taken showing the following members of the Council present or absent: Present: Ballinger, Eshelman, Wenstrand. Absent: Franks, Thornton. City Clerk Ohnmacht was also present.

The Agenda was approved. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Guests present: Amy Toye, Ritchie Diehl. Rural Trustees: Stephen Carlson, Ronald Allen, Randy Wenstrand, Steve Falk, Mike Johnson, Lisa Holmes, Bernard Fischer, Lyle Palmer, Darwin Holmes, Chad McClintock, Donald Woodin, Todd Bashaw, Joe Jardon, Dan Jensen. Justin Welchans and Michele Welchans joined the meeting at 6:45 PM.

A review of the 2021 Fire and Rescue Revenues, Expenses and proposed 2022 – 2023 Budget; 2021 Township expenses and 2021 bank transactions. No changes were made to the contracts for the next 2 years.

City Attorney Sorensen joined the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Acceptance of monthly police report: January 8, 2022 – February 5, 2022. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Acceptance of delinquent utilities report. Motion by Ballinger, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Acceptance of retirement of Rebecca Jones from Essex Fire and Rescue with recognition and thanks for years of service. Motion by Eshelman, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Third reading Resolution 2021 – 38: Sewer Service Charges. Motion to approve by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Motion to adopt as ordinance Resolution 2021 – 38: Sewer Service Charges. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Mayor Kinney announced his appointment of Wenstrand to the cemetery board.

Approval Resolution 2022 – 09: Wage Resolution. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2022 – 10: Employee Handbook Update. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Sorensen updated the Council on the property at 707 Omaha Avenue. He will file for a deed on April 22, 2022.

Two bids were presented for tree removal at 710 Iowa Avenue. Motion by Ballinger to accept lower bid of \$1,600.00 from Clark's Tree Service for the removal of 3 trees. Second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

City wide garage sales and clean-up was discussed. The garage sale date was set for June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. The clean-up days will be the following weekend June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> from 8-4 both days. People needing assistance will need to call City Hall by June 7<sup>th</sup>.

Approval Resolution 2022 – 12: Proposing Certain Requirements for the Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles and Off-Road Utility Vehicles and the Requirements of Chapter 75 All-Terrain Vehicles and Snowmobiles and Sections 75.03 and Section 75.05. Motion by Eshelman, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2022 – 13: Proposing the Amendment of Chapter 82 Golf Carts. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

No action was taken for park tobacco free/nicotine free policy.

No action was taken on deciding to reapply for CDBG for the sewer project. The engineer for the project will be asked to advise.

Work orders were reviewed.

Approval of changes to building permit. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

7:30 PM Public Hearing: Maximum Proposed Property Tax Levy Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 was opened by Mayor Kinney. No written or oral comments or objections were received. The public hearing was closed.

Approval Resolution 2022 – 11: Adoption of Maximum Levy Dollars Budget Year July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. Motion by Ballinger, second by Wenstrand. Ayes: All.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Minutes: January 12, 2022; January 19, 2022, January 26, 2022; February 2, 2022; Treasurer's Report January 31, 2022; Abstract of Claims January 13, 2022 – February 9, 2022. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Sorensen updated the Council on nuisance items he is working on. Sorensen updated the Council on potential changes of EMS.

Mayor reported on a proposal he is working with Sorensen on for the Library. Mayor Kinney also announced that the City will be advertising for summer help. He updated the Council on the plan for North Avenue (known as Pendleton Road). There will be a special council meeting February 23, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

Good News: Eshelman mentioned the growth of Essex with the new houses being built. Wenstrand is excited to see the joint meetings happening with the City, Essex Community Club and the Essex

School. Ballinger complimented the city employees on their hard work removing snow and keeping up with garbage. Ohnmacht spoke of the good performances of the Essex Cheerleaders. Kinney is thankful for the good weather and is excited for the upcoming year and the good projects ahead.

Adjournment at 8:19 PM. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

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Mayor, Calvin L. Kinney

ATTEST:

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City Clerk, Mary A. Ohnmacht